

CELEBRATING THE FORTIETH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE MONTGOM-  
ERY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 1998*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Montgomery County Humane Society as they celebrate their 40th anniversary. As an animal lover and member of the Congressional Friends of Animals Caucus, I am so proud that this organization has provided compassionate animal welfare services to my district in Montgomery County, Maryland for so many years.

The Montgomery County Humane Society offers many critically important services to the county. Every year, the organization shelters over 10,500 animals and provides other assistance to 100,000 local citizens. The adoption program is nationally recognized with an impressive 69% adoption rate. The Montgomery County Humane Society also provides rescue services, low- and no-cost spaying and neutering, veterinary care, and critical humane education programs.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer congratulations and my warmest wishes to the Montgomery County Humane Society as they celebrate this important milestone. May they continue to grow and prosper.

WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH

**HON. RICK LAZIO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 1998*

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of legislation that was introduced by Congressman BILIRAKIS. This legislation is a necessary step to ensure that the most promising research receives the attention it deserves and that women receive the best screening and prevention methods available.

The Women's Health Research & Prevention Amendments of 1998 includes a section that will renew the CDC National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP). More than 1 million women in this country who otherwise would not have the benefit of early cancer detection have been screened by this excellent program. Since the inception of the NBCCEDP, over 3,400 women have been diagnosed with cancer.

Breast and cervical cancer is devastating. One in eight women will develop breast cancer. Today, 2.6 million women are living with breast cancer. Every three minutes a woman is diagnosed and every 11 minutes a woman dies of breast cancer. Additionally, 13,700 women will be diagnosed with invasive cervical cancer. Deaths related to cervical cancer will total 3,900 this year. These startling statistics prove the importance of education, screening, early detection, and treatment.

In collaboration with Congressman BILIRAKIS, I drafted language to expand the services provided under this program. Women diagnosed with cancer through this program will now be able to rely on case managers to help them obtain the care they need and the care they deserve.

Case management in this CDC screening program is a critical component in most states' programs. My language would ensure that all women who are diagnosed case managers. Women need expert advice as they face the challenges posed by breast and cervical cancer. We are ensuring that today every woman has as much knowledge as possible to take control of her own life and obtain the care she needs to fight her cancer.

I would like to take this opportunity to point out that I am pleased to be an original sponsor of Congressman BILIRAKIS' legislation. I thank him for accommodating my concerns and taking this important first step in addressing a critical problem facing underserved women in this nation.

There are thousands of medically underserved women who need access to critical health care. We must continue to look for long term solutions to the challenge of ensuring treatment for women served under this CDC-funded program. Case management is vitally important, however, as more women are screened and more cancers are diagnosed through this program, ensuring care for all who need it will place increasing stress on fragile and overburdened treatment systems.

Earlier this year, I introduced legislation that solves this problem for women screened through the CDC program. My bill, The Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act, H.R. 3779, will strengthen an already strong program by allowing case managers to serve those women diagnosed with cancer in a more timely manner. Currently, program managers must rely on outside funding sources for treatment—a process that requires time, labor, and resources. My bill gives states the option to help these women find the appropriate care through Medicaid. Additionally, my bill would free up resources, especially time and money, so that case managers can focus efforts on bringing more women into the program to take advantage of early cancer screening. My legislation will make the CDC screening program a complete success and should be enacted as well.

I am hopeful that Congress will take the necessary steps to make the program stronger through the passage of The Women's Health Research and Prevention Amendments of 1998. Not only does this legislation reauthorize the NBCCEDP, but it also addresses many other quality programs in women's health at the NIH and the CDC. The legislation reauthorizes research on osteoporosis, cancer, heart attack, stroke, and aging at the NIH. Under the CDC, this bill also reauthorizes the National Center for Health Statistics, National Program of Cancer Registries, and the Centers for Research and Demonstrations of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

I urge all my colleagues to cosponsor Mr. BILIRAKIS' legislation and do our share to ensure that women can be screened, treated, and cured of breast and cervical cancer.

INDIAN PARLIAMENT MEMBER  
SAYS INDIA MAY SUFFER SAME  
FATE AS SOVIET UNION

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 1998*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on August 7, India-West reported that Sharad Pawar, the

leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of India's Parliament, "expressed fear that the country might go the erstwhile Soviet Union way." Speaking at a function for the release of a book, Pawar said that although the Soviet Union was a nuclear power, it fell apart. He said that India's missile tests should not make it overconfident about keeping the country together.

The decline of India is inevitable, Mr. Speaker, for many of the same reasons that doomed the Soviet Union. The fact that a leader of the Indian Parliament is now taking note of it is a significant development.

India is a country made of many nations. It has 18 official languages. While it maintains a democratic form of government, the principles of democracy do not seem to apply where the minority nations are concerned. Tens of thousands of Sikhs, Christian Nagas, Kashmiri Muslims, Dalits, Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, and others have been murdered by the government, with no apparent difference no matter which party is in power. Currently, there are 17 freedom movements within India's borders. It looks like Mr. Pawar is on to something.

India's breakup is inevitable. I think I speak for most of us here when I say that I hope it happens in the peaceful way that the Soviet breakup did. Otherwise, there is the risk of another Yugoslavia in South Asia.

It has been American policy to preserve the current artificial stability in South Asia, but let us remember that we pursued a similar policy with regard to the Soviet empire and it collapsed anyway. The best way to preserve stability, democracy, prosperity, freedom, and peace in South Asia is to get on the side of the peaceful, democratic, nonviolent freedom movements in Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and the other nations living under Indian rule.

I call on my colleagues to support an internationally supervised plebiscite to settle the future of Punjab, Khalistan by votes, the way that democracies decide issues. I also call on India to fulfill its obligation to hold a plebiscite in Kashmir as it promised the United Nations it would in 1948. By these steps, India will signal its commitment to a democratic solution rather than a Yugoslavian-style ethnic war. If it will not commit itself to take these steps, my colleagues can draw their own conclusions—and so can the people of the world. India must not try to settle this issue with more bullets, more genocide, and more nuclear warheads. The time has come to shine the light of freedom on all the people and nations of South Asia.

I thank Dr. Aulakh for bringing this very informative article to my attention and I am placing the article into the RECORD.

[From India-West, Aug. 7, 1998]

INDIA MAY SUFFER SOVIET FATE: PAWAR

PUNE (PTI).—The leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha Sharad Pawar Aug. 2 expressed the fear that the country might go the erstwhile Soviet Union way unless concerted efforts are taken to strengthen its economy in the wake of international reaction to its carrying out nuclear tests.

Pawar was speaking at a function to release a book, "Hiroshima," by noted Marathi writer D.B. Kher on the after effects of bomb explosion in Japan Aug. 6, 1945.

Pawar said though the erstwhile USSR was a nuclear power it collapsed, and added that India should not become over-confident after the Pokhran-II tests.